# Motivational Interviewing to Promote Behavior Change

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## "No person is completely unmotivated."\*

\*S. Rollnick, W.R. Miller, C. Butler



## Shift our thinking...

FROM:

"Why isn't this person motivated?"

TO:

"For what are they motivated?"

\*S. Rollnick, W.R. Miller, C. Butler

Change is motivated by discrepancy between the present behavior and personal goals and values.



Many people are failed self-changers

--DiClemente

#### Motivational Interviewing

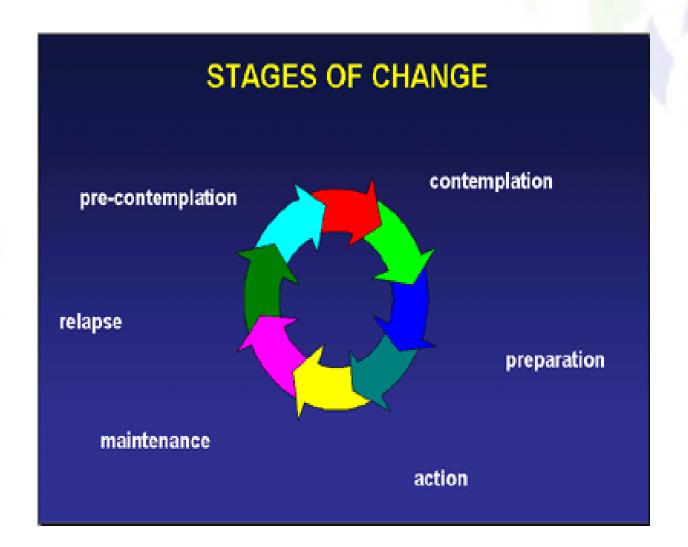
"A client-centered, directive method for enhancing intrinsic motivation to change by exploring and resolving ambivalence."

Developed originally by
William Miller and Stephen Rollnick
Motivational Interviewing. Guilford Press. 1991.



#### Ambivalence...

- ... is like walking uphill in mud!
- Both sides are already within the person.
- What's likely to happen if you argue for change?
- The likelihood of change decreases as a person defends the status quo.
- Normalize ambivalence.
- Resistance: usually another word for ambivalence
- Ask: "Am I aligned with readiness to change?"



## SPIRIT

 Autonomy: Affirm choice, selfdirection, ability

• Collaboration: Partnership; honors their goals, perspectives, expertise

• **Elicit:** A person's *own* best reasons and methods to change

## **EMPATHY**



**EMPATHY** 



# Be genuinely curious

## Try to understand

- What really matters to a person
- How they see the issue
- What they wish were different
- What is frustrating or difficult
- What things they feel hopeful or confident about
- What they view as strengths and opportunities
- How they would change (if they decide to)

## From Spirit to Practice

## Ask permission









## Why Reflections?

To show empathy

- So a person hears what they are saying
- To get at the meaning behind they say
- To encourage and support problem solving

### Examples of Reflections

- "You feel overwhelmed and not sure where to begin."
- "It's difficult to deal with extra appointments."
- "Smoking helps you deal with stress."
- "You're worried about your child/family."
- "There is just so much to keep track of."
- "You just don't think your child needs special services."
- "You don't necessarily think your child has a serious problem."
- "I can see that you want your child to get the care he needs."
- "When it feels like the right time to use extra services, then you'll consider some next steps?"



#### **AFFIRM**

Goals

Values

- Self-efficacy
- Concern and care for child/family

#### Summaries

Link together statements and themes.

Restate and reinforce desire and intentions.

Summarize next steps.



Desire
Ability
Reason
Need



### How to get a person talking about change

#### Ask for it!

- "Why might you want to make a change in \_\_\_\_\_?
- "If you decided to change \_\_\_\_\_, how might you go about it?"
- "What are the best reasons to change \_\_\_\_\_?"
- "How will your life be better if you change \_\_\_\_\_?"

#### Look forward

- "If you don't change \_\_\_\_\_, what do you think will happen?"
- "How do you think your weight could affect your health in the future?"

#### Explore next steps

- "So, what do you think you'll do?"
- "So, where does that leave you now?"

### Exploring pros and cons

- Of a behavior
- Of changing a behavior

"What are the good things about \_\_\_\_?"

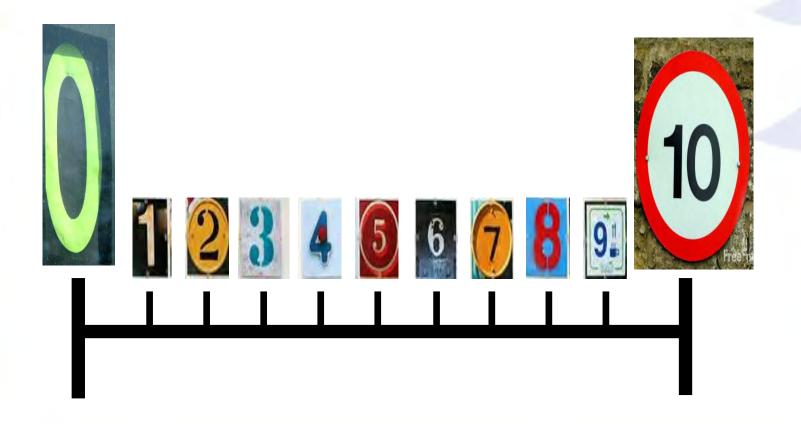
"And what are the not so good things about \_\_\_\_?"

#### Then summarize both sides:

"So, on the one hand ..."

"And on the other hand..."

#### The 0-10 Ruler



#### Importance and/or Readiness

"On a scale from 0-10, how important is it to you to \_\_\_\_\_?"

And/or

"On a scale from 0-10, how ready are you to ?"

### How to respond to IMPORTANCE/READINESS question

#### Followed by:

"What makes you a 4 and not a lower number?"

**OR simply:** 

"Why a 4?"

## Confidence

"On a scale from 0-10, how confident are you that you will be able to \_\_\_\_\_?"

## Responding to the CONFIDENCE question

#### Followed by:

"What would help you feel more confident?"

